



British Columbia Aboriginal Aquaculture Strategy

Statement of Work

**Aboriginal Aquaculture Association
1400B Drake Road
Campbell River, British Columbia
V9W 7K6
Phone: (250) 286-9939**

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Title

“Statement of Work for the Preparation of a BC Aboriginal Aquaculture Strategy to increase Aboriginal participation in the aquaculture industry”.

Introduction/Background

This project is supported by the Aboriginal Aquaculture in Canada Initiative (AACI). The AACI began in 2013 with funding from the Strategic Partnerships Initiative (SPI) and supports Aboriginal economic development in Canada’s aquaculture sector. Developed in partnership with Aboriginal organizations, the AACI provides interested Aboriginal communities and entrepreneurs with support in the form of technical business expertise to develop viable aquaculture business development plans and help to bring those plans to fruition. An increasing number of Aboriginal communities and entrepreneurs have expressed interest in exploring opportunities in the aquaculture sector.

The Aboriginal Aquaculture Association (AAA) is a sectoral organization designed to assist, support and facilitate the meaningful participation of First Nations in sustainable aquaculture development. It serves as a resource body providing guidance and advice with respect to sustainable aquaculture development, regulation and management of aquaculture. The AAA administers the AACI for the Western Region of Canada; Alberta, British Columbia and Canada’s North and will be the lead organization for this project.

Using estimates of the total potential growth of the aquaculture industry in Canada over the next 10 years, the RIAS Inc. *“Economic Opportunities for Aquaculture in the Pacific, Central, Ontario and Northern Regions, June 2014*, states BC will have the largest growth in aquaculture in the next decade and it can be anticipated that First Nations could have 40% of that growth. The reports goes on to state aquaculture can become a more important economic driver for First Nation communities, generating more revenues for First Nations through their direct involvement in all facets of the aquaculture value chain (hatchery, raising, harvesting, processing, packaging, and shipping or delivery), as well as indirect involvement through the provision of support services (environmental services, construction, diving, boat repair, water taxi services etc.).

It is estimated that there will be a 3-5% growth in the BC aquaculture industry in the next 5 years. Strategies are needed to ensure that BC Aboriginals are able to capitalize on this growth and develop the opportunities.

Objective

To develop strategies to increase Aboriginal involvement in the aquaculture sector in British Columbia.

Estimated Value

This is a fixed fee contract. Proposals must include all professional fees, disbursements and administration fees for the project.

The total contract value is \$10,000 CAD.

Scope of Work

This is a regional level report identifying strategies to increase Aboriginal involvement in the aquaculture sector in British Columbia. The report will detail separately, strategies for finfish and shellfish.

The report will include a high level overview of the current status of aquaculture development. In constructing the report the Contractor shall build on the findings of existing and developing reports that provide relevant supporting and background information including current outlook of aquaculture development internationally, nationally, provincially, market outlook, projections and related economic opportunities.

The report will detail opportunities for Aboriginals in finfish and shellfish aquaculture and will include, but is not limited to, opportunities for direct and indirect involvement, partnership development, service sector, high value species and treaty.

The report will incorporate outcomes and recommendations of a SWOT analysis done for each of the following areas: Southern BC, West Vancouver Island, Northern Vancouver Island, East Vancouver Island, North and Central Coast of BC. The SWOT is to also consider recent trends; legal decisions, regulatory issues (i.e. multi-year licensing), implementation of Free Trade Agreements etc.

The report will identify high potential initiatives for aboriginal finfish and shellfish aquaculture and include strategies and an action plan with recommendations on how to successfully implement these initiatives along with identification of key players to support implementation of these initiatives.

The report will include the human resource needs of the high potential initiatives including skills training and employment needs.

Deliverables

The chosen contractor shall prepare a final report in descriptive format with tabular information as appropriate and including relevant appendices. This report will address the full scope of work as outlined above.

The report will be presented in electronic and hard copy and be accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation that presents the project from background to results and recommendations.

The report will be prepared with the support and direction of the Ad hoc Steering

Committee and the AAA.

Specific Project Management Requirements

An Ad Hoc Steering Committee will be established to guide the project and track progress. The Ad Hoc Steering Committee will consist of Aboriginal members that will represent the diverse aquaculture interests of Aboriginal peoples in British Columbia.

The Contractor shall make him or herself available to participate in conference calls with the Ad Hoc Steering Committee and the AAA Staff.

The Contractor shall provide a draft of the British Columbia Aboriginal Aquaculture Strategy no later than September 30, 2015.

The AAA will provide comments and suggested edits within five business days of receiving the draft.

The Contractor shall provide an updated draft report no later than October 19, 2015 that will be reviewed by the Ad Hoc Steering Committee. Further comments from this review will be provided to the Contractor no later than October 26, 2015.

A final report will be completed no later than October 30, 2015.

The Contractor shall provide 10 hard copies of the Final Report

Guidelines & Timelines

This is an open and competitive process.

Proposals received after Friday, August 14, 2015, will not be considered.

The proposal must contain the signature of a duly authorized officer or agent of the company submitting the proposal.

The proposal must contain an explanation of the project that demonstrates the contractor's knowledge and understanding of the work, the First Nations communities and the region and a detailed description of the methodology the contractor will use to successfully deliver a high quality report.

Proposals must contain an explanation of the contractor's qualifications, experience and expertise as well as three references for similar projects.

The winning bidder will be selected at the sole discretion of the Aboriginal Aquaculture Association. The lowest bid may not necessarily be selected.

Questions should be submitted in writing via email to Ms. Marguerite Parker, marguerite@aboriginalaquaculture.com